

Arty Architecture

Description:

Children will become architects as they create small paper houses.

Materials:

House activity sheets, safety scissors, markers, crayons, pencils, tape or glue
Optional: paint, brushes and water, construction paper

Preparation:

Make copies of the House activity sheets.



Procedure:

Talk about what it means to be an architect. Tell your child that architects design the houses we live in and the buildings we work in. Your child will create small paper houses. He can work from the pattern sheet provided or transfer the patterns onto construction paper. Houses, doors, and windows can be drawn or painted on the pattern. Then, have your child cut out and fold the house patterns as indicated, do the same for the roof patterns, and attach the roofs with glue or masking tape. As an alternative, doors and windows can be cut out of construction paper and glued onto the house pattern.

Extension:

Your child can create a larger house from cardboard, using wallpaper scraps for wallpaper, cloth strips for curtains or furniture coverings, and crayons or markers to add detail and color. Older children can cut out holes for windows and doors.

Artist Tie-in:

Frank Lloyd Wright is one of the twentieth century's most innovative architects. His projects include the Guggenheim Museum in New York City and many houses and public buildings in Chicago.

Just for Kids:

Almost every man-made structure from towering skyscraper to tiny shed has been designed by an architect. Today you will be an architect and design the outside of a house. Make your house different from most of the houses you see. Finally, glue your house together for display.

Resources:

Web:

Architectural Education Resource Center: www.norfolk-county.com/aerc

Books:

If I Built a Village by Kazuo Mizumura

The Village of Round and Square Houses by Ann Grifalconi

Everyday House by Cynthia Rylant

